

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network, the system comprising:

at least one telecommunications device communicatively coupled to a line-switching communications network;

a packet-switching communications network, wherein first signaling data is transmitted between a first subscriber line and a second subscriber line of the packet-switching communications network; and

an interface unit connected to both ~~to~~ the packet-switching communications network and ~~to~~ the telecommunications device, the interface unit converting at least some of the first signaling data, which is intended for the subscriber line using the packet-switching communications network, into second signaling data of the line-switching communications network, and feeding the second signaling data to the telecommunications device, and vice versa,

wherein the second signaling data is transmitted ~~in~~ to the packet-switching communications network instead of the first signaling data when the second signaling data cannot be converted to the first signaling data.

Claim 2. (canceled).

Claim 3. (previously presented). A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second signaling data contain signaling messages.

Claim 4. (previously presented): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 3, wherein the interface unit, via an interface program, converts the signaling messages of the packet-switching

communications network into equivalent signaling messages of the line-switching communications network.

Claim 5. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 4, wherein the conversion is carried out using equivalent signaling messages stored in a database.

Claim 6. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 4, wherein the interface program for signaling messages to which no equivalent signaling message is assigned is transmitted using a data packet as user data.

Claim 7. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 4, wherein the interface program generates messages which at least one of the packet-switching communications network and the line-switching communications network requires as an acknowledgement of transmitted signaling data.

Claim 8. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 3, wherein the signaling messages are used to make connection setups between the first and second subscribers.

Claim 9. (previously presented): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 3 wherein the signaling messages are used for at least one of activating, deactivating, and registering at least one service feature.

Claim 10. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 9, wherein the service feature comprises at least one of call pick-up, three-way conferencing, large-scale conferencing, holding,

displaying of toll information, a closed user group, call number identification, automatic callback when busy, automatic callback when no response, call barring, an indication of call waiting and call transfer.

Claim 11. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 3, wherein the signaling messages are transmitted in the packet-switching communications network independently of user connections.

Claim 12. (previously presented): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 3, wherein the signaling message of the line-switching communications network are DSS1 messages.

Claim 13. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 3, wherein the signaling messages of the packet-switching communications network are signaling messages of the H.225 signaling protocol Standard.

Claim 14. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the telecommunications device is at least one of an ISDN telephone, an analog telephone, an analog modem, an ISDN modem and an analog facsimile device.

Claim 15. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the telecommunications device is a private branch exchange.

Claim 16. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the interface unit is arranged in a separate physical unit.

Claim 17. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the interface unit is a module in the telecommunications unit.

Claim 18. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein a control unit of the interface unit automatically logs on the interface unit as a subscriber to the packet-switching communications network.

Claim 19. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the interface unit has a control unit which converts the data using at least one program module.

Claim 20. (original): A system for connecting a telecommunications device to a packet-switching communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the packet-switching communications network is a network based on an Internet protocol.

Claim 21. (currently amended): An interface unit which is communicatively coupled to both a packet-switching communications network and to a telecommunications device that is further communicatively coupled to a line-switching telecommunications network, comprising:

a control unit which converts at least one item of signaling information of the packet-switching communications network into ~~an~~ a second item of signaling information of a line-switching communications network and feeds it to the telecommunications device, and vice versa,

wherein the second item of signaling information is transmitted ~~in~~ to the packet-switching communications network instead of the first item of signaling information when the second item of signaling information cannot be converted to the first item.

Claim 22. (original): An interface unit as claimed in claim 21, wherein the interface unit is used to connect a communications terminal to the packet-switching communications network.

Claim 23. (original): An interface unit as claimed in claim 21, wherein the interface unit is used to connect a private branch exchange to the packet-switching communications network.

Claim 24. (currently amended): A communications terminal, ~~which can be~~ connected to a line-switching communications network and which is used for telecommunications, comprising:

an interface unit, communicatively coupled to a packet-switching communications network and to a telecommunications device, wherein said telecommunications device is further communicatively coupled to a line-switching telecommunication network;

a control unit, communicatively coupled to said interface unit that converts at least a part of a first item of signaling information of the packet-switching communications network into a second item of signaling information of a line-switching communications network and feeds it to the telecommunications device, and vice versa,

wherein the second item of signaling information is transmitted ~~in to~~ the packet-switching communications network instead of the at least a part of the first item of signaling information when the second item of signaling information cannot be converted to the first item.

Claim 25. (original): A communications terminal as claimed in claim 24, wherein the interface unit is a module of the communications terminal.

Claim 26. (currently amended): A private branch exchange, ~~which can be~~ connected to a line-switching communications network and which is used for telecommunications, comprising:

an interface unit which is communicatively coupled to both to a packet-switching communications network and to a telecommunications device, wherein said telecommunications device is further communicatively coupled to a line-switching telecommunications network;

a control unit, communicatively coupled to said interface unit that converts at least a part of a first item of signaling information of the packet-switching communications network into a second item of signaling information of a line-switching communications network and feeds it to the telecommunications device, and vice versa, wherein the interface unit is used to connect the private branch exchange to the packet-switching communications network,

wherein the second item of signaling information is transmitted ~~in~~to the packet-switching communications network instead of the at least a part of first item of signaling information when the second item of signaling information cannot be converted to the first item.

Claim 27. (original): A private branch exchange as claimed in claim 26, wherein the interface unit is a module of the private branch exchange.